in respect of flats of various Group Housing Societies on Outer Ring Road, Pitampura, Delhi;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, by when such a survey is likely to be conducted with a view to finalising the house tax on the flats built by Group Housing Societies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) M.C.D. is levying the property tax which is a per centage of the rateable value of the building. The rateable value of the building is the annual rent for which a property is reasonably expected to be let from year to year. In respect of the flats subject to Delhi Rent Control Act, the rateable value cannot be more than the standard rent determinable under the Delhi Rent Control Act.

(b) and (c) The Government has not conducted any survey for the purpose. However, MCD conducts surveys periodically to assess the properties to property tax and to revise the rateable values wherever necessary.

(d) Notices for revision in the rateable values of the flats constructed upto 31-3-88 and for proposing the rateable values of the flats constructed after 1-4-88 have been issued during the months of February and March 1991 and in the remaining cases notices are under issue.

Fire Safety in Buildings

1311. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to answer to Unstarred Question 918 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th May, 1990 and state:

(a) whether Government have received the report of action taken by each of the State Government;

(b) whether the Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee had conducted tests of some fire-proof doors manufactured in Garmany and recommended its adoption in India about 3 or 4 years back;

(c) whether the National Building Code of India does not contain the compulsory use of fire-proof doors in multistorey buildings, hotels and publice premises; etc.;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the immediate steps to be taken for the use of fire-proof doors instead of fire retardant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) A number of State including Assam, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, UP Manipur and West Bengal have enacted the Model legislation as circulated by the Ministry.

Delhi has enacted the Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986. Daman & Diu are following Goa Fire Service Act. As far as possible the State/UT Governments are following the guidelines as laid down in the National Building Code of India in providing fire protection Measures in the Buildings.

(b) During 1987-88, the Central Building Research Institute has evaluated and approved single leaf and double leaf fire doors of a firm M/s Gerhardt Ruck GMBH & Co., West Germany for fire resistance rating of one and two Hours.

(c) and (d) The National Building Code incorporates recommendations for use of fire resisting doors/fire check doors only. These provisions are advisory and not mandatory.

(e) It is for the State Governments to take appropriate steps in this regard.